



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEFENDANT SENTENCED FOR ROBBING SIX BANKS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a defendant was sentenced in federal court today for robbing banks in Columbia, Gladstone, North Kansas City, and Joplin, Mo.

Roger Eugene Hymes, 39, address unknown, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to 12 years and six months in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Hymes** to pay \$31,494 in restitution.

On Aug. 10, 2005, **Hymes** pleaded guilty to charges contained in an Oct. 4, 2004, federal indictment.

Hymes pleaded guilty to stealing \$350 from First National Bank in Columbia on June 23, 2004, after presenting a teller with a demand note.

Hymes also pleaded guilty to stealing \$3,970 from U.S. Bank in Gladstone on June 4, 2004, after showing a teller a demand note and telling her that he had a gun.

Hymes also pleaded guilty to stealing \$1,590 from U.S. Bank in Joplin on April 27, 2004, after he demanded money from the teller and threatened to shoot her.

Although not part of his guilty plea, Graves said, **Hymes'** plea agreement notes that he also confessed to additional bank robberies charged in the indictment. **Hymes** admitted that he stole \$2,850 from Bank of America in North Kansas City on May 11, 2004; \$2,823 from First State Bank in Joplin on April 30, 2004; and \$1,250 from U.S. Bank in Columbia on April 21, 2004.

In each of those robberies, Graves said, the tellers and victims indicated that they gave money to **Hymes** because they feared he would use violence and/or a deadly weapon if they did

not comply.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. It was investigated by the Columbia, Mo., Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Joplin, Mo., Police Department, the Gladstone, Mo., Police Department, the North Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Sunset Hills, Mo., Police Department and the Webb City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow